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RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE 0453
INFO RUESBG/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE 6722
RUESRS/AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE 5030
RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE 4958
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 0292
RUESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE 4752
RUESJO/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE 5882
RUESAL/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE 4258
RUESTE/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE 4269
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 00299

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MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

MEXICO PLEASE PASS CODEL BAKER

E.O. 12065: XDS 1-4 01/05/12 (MOSS, AMBLER H.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, XK, PM
SUBJECT: CODEL BAKER CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT
KOYO JANUARY 12

REF: PANAMW 00066

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1. (CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. DURING FUEL STOP ENROUTE FROM LIMA TO MEXICO JAN. 12, SENATORS BAKER AND LAXALT REVISITED PRESIDENT ROYO AS HE HAD REQUESTED DURING THEIR MEETING ON JANUARY 4 (SEE PARA 8 REFTEL). AMBASSADOR MOSS ACCOMPANIED.

3. ROYO SAID THAT HE HAD SPOKEN WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ZAMBRANO OF VENEZUELA SINCE CODEL'S LAST VISIT, AND THAT HE HAD HOPES THAT PRESIDENTS HERRERA CAMPINS, TURBAY, AND CARAZO WOULD ALL ATTEND THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION IN TEGUCIGALPA JANUARY 27. HE SAID THAT HE WAS MAKING EFFORTS TO PERSUADE THE LATTER TWO PRESIDENTS TO BE THERE. ROYO URGED THAT THE UNITED STATES SEND A "HIGH-LEVEL" REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATION TO TALK TO THE OTHER LA LEADERS ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT REAGAN. HE SAID THAT, IN KEEPING WITH HIS LAST CONVERSATION WITH CODEL, HE REALIZED THE UNITED STATES COULD NOT AND DID NOT WISH TO ACT UNILATERALLY, AND THAT IT NEEDED LATIN AMERICAN APPROVAL OR "JOINT ACTION" TO CONFRONT THE SERIOUS SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

4. ROYO SAID THAT HE WISHED SENATOR BAKER WOULD TELL PRESIDENT REAGAN THAT "HE WANTS TO COOPERATE" AND HE AGAIN SPOKE IN TERMS OF THE DANGERS PRESENTED BY THE NICARAGUAN ARMS BUILDUP AND SOVIET-CUBAN SUBVERSION GENERALLY. HE ALSO MADE A SPECIAL APPEAL THAT THE USG COME TO THE RESCUE OF COSTA RICA BECAUSE OF ITS FINANCIAL CRISIS AND BECAUSE OF ITS VULNERABILITY.

5. COMMENT: IT WAS THE IMPRESSION OF THE CODEL THAT ROYO WAS SAYING THAT HE AND OTHER LA LEADERS WOULD BE PREPARED TO SPEAK OUT AND PERHAPS JOIN IN EFFORTS TO CONTAIN OR PUSH BACK COMMUNIST SUBVERSION, BUT THAT THEY WISHED THE ASSURANCE THAT THE USG WOULD BE WITH THEM AND NOT LOSE NERVE. IN HIS BRIEF TREATMENT OF MEXICO, HE ALSO IMPLIED THAT WHATEVER ACTIONS ARE TAKEN MIGHT HAVE TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT MEXICO. THIS ENTIRE CONVERSATION RAN ALONG PARALLEL LINES TO A CONVERSATION SAME DATE BETWEEN UNDERSECRETARY BUCKLEY

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AND FLORENCIO FLOREZ, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF PANAMANIAN
NATIONAL GUARD, REPORTED SEPTEL. MOSS

END OF MESSAGE

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